



Eddie A. Perez, Mayor

-----MEDIA RELEASE-----

**MAYOR PEREZ PRAISES BONO AND THE “ONE CAMPAIGN”
FOR FIGHTING WORLD POVERTY AND GLOBAL AIDS---
ANNOUNCES HARTFORD AS A “CITY OF ONE”**

(December 7, 2005)--- Mayor Eddie Perez has signed a proclamation, stating that Hartford is a “City of One.” Through this announcement, Hartford will be adding its voice to a growing list of individuals and communities in ONE's Campaign to Make Poverty History, a new effort by Americans to rally Americans – ONE by ONE – to fight the emergency of global AIDS and extreme poverty in Africa and around the world.

ONE was co-founded by Bono, U2's lead singer and co-founder of DATA (debt, AIDS, trade, Africa), and 11 of America's most known advocacy and humanitarian organizations. Bono and U2 will perform tonight at the Hartford Civic Center in Downtown Hartford.

Mayor Perez says, “In my State of the City Address, I noted how we must be ‘One Hartford’--- where all residents can feel that they are a part of the renaissance of our great city. By adding that Hartford is now a ‘City of ONE, we are connected to the worldwide effort of improving the quality of life for our global neighbors as well. I want to thank Bono and all the members of U2 for their compassion and commitment on the local and world stage.”

In July, G-8 countries met and committed to a historic deal to help Africa and the world's poorest countries fight global AIDS and extreme poverty, including \$50 billion more a year in international assistance and near universal access to HIV/AIDS drugs per year by 2010, primary schools for all children by 2015 and debt cancellation for 18 of the world's poorest countries.

The ONE Campaign's mission statement is as follows: “We believe that in the best American tradition of helping others help themselves, now is the time to join with other countries in a historic pact for compassion and justice to help the poorest people of the world overcome AIDS and extreme poverty. We recognize that a pact including such measures as fair trade, debt relief, fighting corruption and direction additional resources for basic needs--- education, health, clean water, food, and care for orphans--- would transform the futures and hopes of an entire generation in the poorest countries, at a cost equal to just one percent more of the U.S. Budget. We commit ourselves--- one person, one voice, one vote at a time--- to make a better, safer world for all.”

Again, Bono and U2 will perform tonight at the Hartford Civic Center. The band is expected to take the stage around 8:30 p.m.